

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 184688
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 INR-07 /043 R

DRAFTED BY T - UNDER SECRETARY BENSON
APPROVED BY T - UNDER SECRETARY BENSON
NEA/IRN - MR. NAAS

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P 060222Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184688

FOR SULLIVAN FROM BENSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MASS, IR, OVIP (BENSON, LUCY WILSON)

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT BY UNDER SECRETARY BENSON

1. AS YOU MAY KNOW, I RECEIVED IN MID-JULY A LETTER FROM TOUFANIAN, IN WHICH HE INVITED ME AND "MEMBERS OF MY STAFF" TO VISIT IRAN TO SEE ITS "DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENTS, THE ADOPTION AND ABSORPTION OF MODERN AND SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT BY OUR SERVICES AND...OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN DEVELOPING OUR COUNTRY...". I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RECESS TO SEE MORE OF THE OVERSEAS SIDE OF OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS. FOR OBVIOUS REASONS IRAN IS ON MY FIRST PRIORITY LIST.

2. I WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR CANDID OPINION ON THE DESIRABILITY AND APPROPRIATENESS OF TAKING UP THE TOUFANIAN INVITATION AND MAKING A 4-5 DAY VISIT TO IRAN THE WEEK OF 28 AUGUST. OUR TENTATIVE VIEW HERE IS THAT SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO ME IN CONTEXT OF RENEWED AWACS ACTI-
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VITY ON THE HILL IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. I AM LESS CLEAR ABOUT PROS AND CONS FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE IN TEHRAN AND THUS NEED YOUR VIEWS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 06-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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